



Turn Your IRA Into a Blessing for St. Mary's (and Save on your Taxes!)

Are you 70½ or older? You have a unique opportunity to support St. Mary's Catholic Church while lowering your tax bill through a Qualified Charitable Distribution (QCD).

What is a QCD?

A QCD is a direct transfer of funds from your IRA straight to St. Mary's. Because the money never passes through your hands, it is excluded from your taxable income.

- **Beat the RMD:** Once you turn 73, the IRS requires annual withdrawals (Required Minimum Distributions or RMDs) from tax deferred retirement accounts, which can raise your taxes. A QCD lets you satisfy your RMD while keeping that money tax-free!
- **Tax Savings:** Traditional IRA withdrawals are normally taxed as income. A QCD lets you give to a cause you love without paying a dime of income tax on the donation.

Do You Qualify?

- **Age:** You must be at least 70½ years old.
- **Limit:** For the 2026 tax year, you can donate up to \$111,000.
- **Accounts:** Must come from an eligible IRA (Traditional IRAs and in some cases inactive SEP or SIMPLE IRAs).
- **Crucial Step:** The check must be made payable and sent directly to the church by your IRA custodian. If it comes to you first, it doesn't count as a QCD!

How to Give to St. Mary's via IRA

Contact your IRA custodian to request a distribution form, and use this official information:

1. **Official Name:** Saint Marys Church of Bellevue (Note: No apostrophe in Marys)
2. **Official Address:** 811 W 23rd Ave, Bellevue, NE 68005
3. **Tax ID / EIN:** 47-0380461
4. **Crucial Step:** Instruct your IRA company to include your name on the distribution so St. Mary's knows who to thank and can send you a letter of receipt for your taxes!

Helpful Hints & Next Steps

- **Designate Your Funds:** If you want your donation to go toward something specific other than Sunday Giving, please contact Melissa Swiecicki at mswiecicki@stmarysbellevue.com or call 402-291-1350 (under staff directory - # 4 for Stewardship).
- **Switching Giving Methods:** If you currently give via ACH, WeShare, or envelopes and want to stop before your IRA donation arrives, reach out to Melissa Swiecicki to stop your previous method of donation for whatever date you designate.
- **Tax Reporting:** You won't get a special IRS form that has "QCD" on it. Your 1099-R form will show a normal IRA distribution. Be sure to let your tax preparer know to report this distribution as a non-taxable QCD, and keep your written acknowledgement letter from St. Mary's for your records in case of an audit.

(Information used from the IRS, Charles Schwab, Fidelity and Tax Shark Inc websites)